

~~Top Secret~~

POLAND: Solidarity Calls for Demonstrations

Solidarity's underground leadership has rejected Prime Minister Jaruzelski's recent gestures toward reconciliation and has called for renewed worker opposition to the regime. The leaders had suspended protest activity last month in the hope of gaining some accommodation from the authorities but now have appealed to members to join in a "general resistance movement" and to stage peaceful demonstrations on 16 and 31 August.

Comment: The union's leadership, after studying Jaruzelski's rather meager actions, evidently has concluded that he will not offer them any meaningful compromises and that active opposition is their only remaining course of action. Solidarity's plans for large-scale protests will test its ability--after more than seven months of martial law--to organize and coordinate widespread demonstrations. The regime, anticipating popular support for Solidarity's appeal, may quickly rescind the relaxations of martial law restrictions it recently announced and may reintern some union activists. The authorities, moreover, have demonstrated that they will not hesitate to use force to stop even peaceful acts of defiance.

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2 August 1982

Approved for Release  
Date AUG 1999

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